
Transitioning Into the YMCA Daycare/Pre-K

Separation and Attachment

Here at the YMCA Daycare, we understand that transitioning or starting a pre-k program can be a trying and emotional time for the child and parents. We want the transition to be as easy and smooth as possible. Below you will find some tips that may help you and your child.

- ❖ We will hold an open house prior to school starting. Try to make this for it will be helpful for you and your child to be able to see the room and practice the rotation of coming into school.
- ❖ Fill out the registration packet in as much detail as possible. This will help the caregiver to know more about your child before coming into the center.
- ❖ Communicating with the caregiver about your child's night/morning at drop off or on Class Dojo is also important. This helps the caregiver to plan for the day.
- ❖ Talk with your child about the upcoming transition to Pre-K. You can leave a picture of your family or something cuddly for them to be able to hold onto during difficult times.
- ❖ Attachment items (blankets, family pictures etc.) are never taken from a child when they are transitioning into the program. Children are weaned off the item at an appropriate time.
- ❖ Make drop-off and pick-up a happy time and help to build a familiar routine with your child at drop-off time. Make sure that you have said good-bye to your child. (Trust that your child care provider will help your child settle down once you leave.)
- ❖ You can call the classroom phone number that is provided to you at any time to check on your child and speak to your child's teacher. (Ohio ONLY)
- ❖ You can also send a message on Class Dojo. This is a wonderful tool for communicating with your child's teacher during the day.